



Aston Fields Middle School

Striving for Excellence: Learning for Life

September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Online Safety Guide

At the start of a new academic year, we are very keen to remind everyone about how important it is for children and adults to keep themselves safe online. The news is regularly filled with stories of people who have been hurt, exploited, scammed and deceived through online communication, fake news and misuse of apps. This week, the Online Safety Bill, which has been developed over recent years, was passed with the aim of the law being in place to create a safer online world for children by making social media firms more responsible for users' safety on their platforms.

We are aware of the constant development of social media apps and websites, and it can be challenging for us as adults to keep updated with these as we strive to keep our children safe, while benefiting from the use of the internet and all this can offer in a positive way. In lessons, pupils are taught about the ways in which they can keep themselves safe online, warned about how to spot potential dangers and what to do if they find themselves victim to misuse of the internet. We are also keen to support all our parents/carers in keeping informed of the different apps and websites that children and young people may be using and what you can do to ensure they are using them safely and protecting themselves. This allows you to have honest conversations at home about these dangers and how they are keeping safe. We have a section on our school website which is dedicated to Online Safety <https://www.astonfields.worcs.sch.uk/subjects/onlinesafety> which has useful advice and links to inform everyone. We are also attaching a helpful guide to Whatsapp, containing information about different chat features and advice about how to ensure privacy settings are secure. We hope you will find this helpful. Look out for more updates throughout the year with a different app or website as the focus.

Kind regards,

Mrs Mynott
Assistant Headteacher



ACE School of
CHARACTER

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